

News & Views

December 2014/January 2015



Branch 11, Royal Canadian Legion
9 Dawes Rd. Toronto, ON
Tel: 416-699-1353 Fax: 416-699-1831
E-mail: branch11rcl@rogers.com
Web site: rcl11.com



President's Message



The Poppy campaign seems to have been a huge success this year thanks to all the volunteers, it is your effort that makes it work and especially for those who did double duty and helped out at the Argos game on Friday Nov. 7th. The Branch Remembrance Service as well as the East York Remembrance Day Parade and Service was well attended. The different stews and chili were greatly appreciated on November 11th, my thanks to those who donated the meal and their time in serving the food. *(Mike: at the table where we were all sitting together on Nov. 11th, we all agreed that the chili was really good and when Marg said it was all gone I commented that next year we will have to make more, I meant it, ``the chili was great`` and thanks for guarding the cupcakes, and I did manage to have one.)*

The Ladies Auxiliary have been doing a wonderful job in keeping us all well fed during different events and functions at the Branch. Thank you all and keep up the good work.

Thanks to the Ulster Accordion Band for leading us at the different parades and all the other various functions you attend and provide entertainment for the Branch members. To Ed Kenny, I enjoy all the stories and the history lessons that you give me.

This past year has seen its ups and downs at the Branch and at times it can be very challenging at keeping the ``Friendly Branch`` on an even keel. With the hard work of your Executives and the Chairs that they hold, the time and energy that they spend on the Branch's behalf, I thank them for the fine job they do and the dedication to the Branch and its members. *(Also let's not forget the members that are not on the Executive but hold chairs, Jean, Bob, Joe, Eunice, and our special volunteer decorators Joyce & Bernie.)*

Thank you to all that volunteer and serve your Branch!!

But of course let's not forget the staff of Branch 11, Robyn, Anne, Barb and Rick, you guys assist the Branch in many ways and help make the Branch an enjoyable place for our members to partake and enjoy the Branch. **Thank you!!**

But the biggest thanks of all goes out to all the **volunteers** and the **members** of **Branch 11** because without you we would not be the ``Friendly Branch``

!!Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!

For all that you do for the `` Friendly Branch``.

The President's Levee will again be held on December 24th from 12:00 pm until 5:00 pm. I hope to see many members out on this day, raffle tickets are on sale and the draw for the various baskets will take place as usual thanks to the Over 60 Club. Just a reminder we are looking for donations that will go into the Christmas Cheer baskets.

On behalf of my family, the Executives and staff of Branch 11 and from myself, may you and your families have a wonderful holiday season.

``MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HEALTHY, HAPPY NEW YEAR.``

President

John N Dufort

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2014

``IN MEMORIUM``

ORDINARY MEMBERS

KORMANN, John. Merchant Marines service #34511
Joined Branch 11, 1985

NICHOLS, Cliff. Royal Canadian Service Corps. Service
#D121681. Joined Branch 11, 1975

At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will
remember them"

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

HOLMES, Terry. Joined Branch 161 Bracebridge 1982.
Transferred to Branch 11, 2004.

MARSHALL, Ken. Joined Branch 11, 2002

MARTIN, Lauretta. Joined Branch 258, 2000. Transferred
to Branch 11 2008

John Kormann: John was active in Branch 11 for years as a supporter of our many dances, special functions, played in many dart leagues and sat on the executive for many years in various chairs. He even played euchre with the Over 60 Club until a few weeks before he passed away. He never gave in and continued to support HIS Branch until his final time. He is missed by the many friends that he made and is always thought of each time his other Over 60

News & Views
December 2014/January 2015

Club members play cards. Our thoughts are with his wife Gayle and his children who we know miss him a lot.

Cliff Nichols: Although Cliff wasn't well known in Branch 11, his wife Caroline is our "newsletter sender" and she has done this job for many years. Without her doing her "thing" the newsletters, special mailings such as our Poppy mailings and other requests would not be sent out accurately and on time. Caroline spent a lot of time the last couple of years visiting Cliff in Sunnybrook but always made the time to make sure our envelopes were stuffed and mailed. We appreciate all the work she has done and is still doing for us and our thoughts go out to her, her daughter Janet and her granddaughter.

We lost three Associate members who supported our Branch with time, thoughts and deeds. Their help certainly contributed to the wellbeing of Branch 11 and each of these members we know are missed by not only their families but by the friends they made when they came in.

Our deepest sympathy to the members of all the families who have recently lost loved ones.

Cathy Cole

Membership Chair

IMPORTANT NOTICE

ATTENDANCE AT GENERAL MEETINGS

We have had very poor attendance at the last few meetings and have come very close to not having a quorum and not conducting a meeting, as only a few members showed up. Unless we have sufficient members attending, we do not have a quorum and are unable to proceed with the meeting. There are always issues that require General membership approval and if we don't have enough members these items have to be held over until the next month or your Executive must make the decision to handle the items and get approval after the fact. We as your executive do not like to go ahead with anything without floor approval but sometimes we can't wait two or three months for approval. Please come out to our/your important General meetings. They are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 8:00 pm with the exception of July and August. It would be nice to see both long service and new members at future meetings.

Cathy Cole

Secretary

MEMBERSHIP

IMPORTANT IMPORTANT IMPORTANT

Any member who has not paid their 2015 dues by January 31, 2015, is classed as "a member not in good standing" as per the By-Laws of Dominion Command. As a Branch adhering to these By-Laws as well as having this

requirement in our own Branch Regulations, any member "not in good standing" will not be allowed to participate in any functions in the Branch, to be served at the bar or to participate in any sports activities.

We would really like to see all members continuing to enjoy the facilities of our "Friendly Branch". PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO. If you do not pay before December 31st (in January or later) your dues will be \$50.00; \$45.00 for dues and a late penalty of \$5.00 which covers some of the costs of sending letters and reminders out to delinquent members.

Thanks to everyone who has already paid their dues for cutting down on the costs to the Branch as no reminders have to be sent out to you, saving us a lot of mailing and copying costs. If you are sending in a cheque and want your card mailed to you, it would help the Branch funds if you would include a stamped self-addressed envelope to send your card to you as we, along with every Legion Branch, are feeling an economic crunch due to our aging population and decreasing membership. Your help regarding this matter would really be appreciated.

If there is a reason you are not planning to renew your membership, please call me at home 416-266-7359 (I have an answering machine) phone the Branch 416-699-1353 and leave a message for me or the President John Dufort or drop a line to my attention as membership chair. We would really like to know why you no longer want to belong to, our great Branch as well as the Royal Canadian Legion.

Cathy Cole

Membership Chair

Just a note of welcome from Branch 11 to the new members who have joined or transferred into our Branch since the last newsletter:

Tom Chiasson, Daniel Longshaw, Tim Prevost, Maria Dodic, Margitta Dougall, Ray Monckton.

Thanks to Daniel who was able to do a major printing job for us as Dominion and Ontario Commands are no longer printing manuals for use by the Branches, they are only available on line, yet one of the requirements for a Branch is to give all new members a copy of both By-laws as well as our own regulations. One of these manuals is 89 pages, which would have been a major cost to the Branch but Daniel came to our rescue and helped us with the printing. Kudos to this new member.

WELCOME TO ALL OUR NEW MEMBERS and we hope that you will continue to support the Branch that you chose to join.

THANK YOU.

News & Views
December 2014/January 2015

A note of thanks to all the members who sent in pre-addressed self-stamped envelopes for the mailing of their membership cards. This year we also had a number of members send in money to buy postage or actual stamps. I cannot express enough thanks to all the members who have sent in stamped envelopes, money for stamps or stamps, as a little bit on your part contributes a lot to our finances. I probably had at least 100 members so far do this little thing for us and this translates into 100 X .85 postage + GST plus the cost of envelopes. Every little bit on your part helps out the bottom line in OUR Branch. Again-Thank you, Thank you.

Cathy Cole

Membership Chair

**PAST OFFICERS' HONOURS & AWARDS DAY
SUNDAY OCT. 5, 2014**

Past President's Maple Leaf Bar for 2nd term: June Smith
Certificate of Merit from Ontario Command to the following members:

Joan Gray, Caroline Nichols, Lloyd Proctor.

Certificate of Appreciation to the following members:

Victoria Armstrong, Daniel Caster, Anne Davis, Doug Fulton, Christine Ostiguy, Steve Ostiguy, Jack Riddell, Larry Shields, Susan Squires.

Certificate of Appreciation to the following guests:

Harold Robbyn, Canadian Tire-donations, parking.

Nancy Plourde, Danforth Lumber-flowers.

Alex Wright, Snap Newspaper.

Ahmed Akbary, Bun King.

Arthur Rozenzweig, St. Clair Ice Cream.

Presentation of service pins: we recognize all members who reach the 10+ years plateau:

Ten year pin to:

ORDINARY: Andrew Brown, Doris Goobie.

ASSOCIATE: Richard Atkinson, Bob Cheeseman, Eunice Francis, Alan Groome, Marg Lintern, Keith MacDonald, Chris Scott.

AFFILIATE: Frazer Adams, Bob Hurl, Kevin Lapponen, Len Simmons, Ron Thomas.

15year pin to:

ASSOCIATE: Shirley Atkinson, Brian Broughton, Sean Broughton, Mike Murphy, Gord Robertson, Dan Sajac.

AFFILIATE: Jun DeLeon.

20 year pin to:

ASSOCIATE: Patty Banks, Lori Clarke, Valerie Dubois, Dorothy Dupont, Marg Gagne, Joan Gray, Lynda Rogers, Maureen Tassie, Roy Weekes.

25 year pin to:

ORDINARY: Tom Brynes, Harold Connery.

ASSOCIATE: Anne Fen, Cindy LeRoy, Carol Hutton, Peggy McAuley, Pat Morton, Amy Naylor, Therese Neilson, Ernest Rumboldt, Pat Smith, Jackie Steward.

30 year pin to:

ASSOCIATE: Betty Bannon, Danny Bond, Ed Kormann, Sharon Mott, William Scott.

35 Year pin to:

ORDINARY: Charles Dobson, Henry Richardson.

ASSOCIATE: Larry Shields.

40 year pin and membership card-it is an ongoing tradition of Branch 11 to start and pay the dues of any Ordinary member who reaches a service level of 40 years.

ORDINARY: Vern Dickens, Cliff Nichols.

ASSOCIATE: Bill Maynard, Keith Radway.

45 year pin:

ORDINARY: John Eagles.

LEGIONNAIRE OF THE YEAR AWARD:

Gord Pearce

Joe Calderone

Honours & Awards Chair

Special Functions



October 19. Our first ever Oktoberfest was beyond successful. Food was great, entertainment was awesome. The clubroom was actually swinging, fun was had by all. There was quite a few requests for Martin Kelly to come back which he did on November 22 in the clubroom. To each and everyone who came out on this day, thank you for supporting the Branch to make it the day that it was. Special thanks to the volunteers, bar maid, and those who donated food and prizes.

Oct 31. Halloween dance: what a fright night it was. We had a spooktacular time. Thanks goes out to the judges, volunteers, bar maid and all who donated prizes. Special thanks to the Haden goblins who decorated the room. The band was just what we needed to wake the Halloween dead. You don't know the fun you missed out on. The band together with the crowd made the fun we enjoyed. Oh, did I mention the costumes? They were *booootiful*.

Mark December 31st on your calendar for New Year's Eve and tickets are now on sale at the clubroom bar. Main floor reserved seating. Buy your tickets early to avoid disappointment. Tickets are also on sale for the clubroom. Let's say goodbye to 2014.

Susan Squires

Special Functions Chair

Immediate Past President's Report



One more month and we say goodbye to 2014. It has flown by so fast and I would like to take the opportunity to say "Thank you" to all the members who stay in the background and do so much and are not looking for credit. Your good deeds do not go unnoticed and its people like you who work for the "Branch" that keeps it functioning. To all those who helped make our "trenches" for Legion Week...you are great and what a fun thing it turned out to be. Please keep supporting our Legion as you are the important ones. The Over 60 Club is looking for Yule logs for the President's Levee so all donations are gratefully accepted.

Lastly Doug and I would like to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and health, happiness and prosperity in the New Year.

June M. Smith

Immediate Past President

Ways & Means



Hi Folks,

Our Sunday funday in October was not very well attended. We just managed to make a small profit for the Branch. We had good entertainment but just a few people came out to enjoy the fun. Our Ulster Band will be entertaining on Nov. 30th so come out and enjoy some great music and fun. This will be the last Sunday funday for the year. Come out in the New Year, have fun let's see if we can help the Branch along.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all.

Bill Topham

Ways & means Chair

Poppy



Hello comrades.

The Poppy campaign is over for this year. I want to thank all the taggers who came out, the drivers for the cadets who came out to tag and the rivers for driving the taggers

to their stations in the area. Thanks to the workers, Gary Gale, Ed Gray, Joe Cromwell, and the LA for feeding us every day. Thanks to the money counters for a great job.

We had a short season this year for tagging, only 10 days. I will wait and see when the final count is in to tell you whether our count was up or down from last year.

Thanks again everyone.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Bill Topham

Poppy Chair

Youth Education



Branch 11 hosted the Public Speaking Seminar November 1st with thanks to our LA who provided coffee, tea & muffins – poor turn out from Zone D3 with better attendance from D1 & D5 but Br. 11 was well represented with 3 people – Daniel Caster, myself and Allan Wang. Very busy arranging for speakers and visiting schools etc. during November. My thanks to Pieter Zuber attending with me at Parkside, Jim LeRoy at Avondale and also at Harmony Hall along with Darcy Hickey (Br. 1/42). While Jim & Darcy were at Harmony Hall I was attending with Gay, Jim Fowler and Cathy Wallace all from Br. 322 at St. James Cathedral afterwards had a lunch meeting with the York Group at which Cathy Wallace did an excellent presentation re: Courageous Companions Canada. York Group are making a donation towards a second therapy dog. Would love to have Cathy Wallace present here – she has done amazing work raising funds for their Branch's first dog who is called Ajax.

Remembrance contest judging took place Nov. 15th. This year we had an increase in entries – 153 up from 117 last year. My thanks to Margaret House, Gay & Jim Fowler, Elsie Higgins, Ken Erwin, Jill Grief, Robert Maygar, and last but not least Lauren Gava who was quick to spot a falsified poster which I am now dealing with. Also Lauren does all the computer data input of the names to be inserted for the Certificates. I will be delivering the winning first place entries to Zone D3 the end of this week for their judging in December. Our Students' Remembrance Awards luncheon is Saturday, January 10th with set up Friday, January 9th.

Branch 11's Public Speaking Contest on Sunday, February 22nd – working on volunteers re: set up (Feb 21st), Judges, Scrutineers etc. etc.

Helen D. Pearce

Youth Education Chair

Sick



Hello comrades,

Lis Hurly-McCloud had a triple by-pass at St. Mikes last week. She is doing great and has now been moved to Jt. John's rehab, visitors welcome.

Rose Mooney is doing very well after taking chemo for over 3 months. When I visited her last week she had a serious eye infection and will be going in for another series of treatments. Her room has been changed, she is now in 309 housing unit. There is little change in John Mooney, he is doing okay and seems to be healthy. Rose and Ruby keep a trained eye on him.

Jim LeRoy was in East General Hospital for over a week and it was determined that he had a minor stroke. Jim is back at the Branch and although a little tired is recuperating well.

Joan Grey had a cataract removed and is doing well.

I received a nice card from James Lockhart saying how much he appreciates what the Branch has done for him.

Edith Neal is looking good. When I saw her she said she was waiting for her son Clay to visit her.

Dorothy DuPont although not well took the time to come to our Honours & Awards day. It was so nice to see her there with her son.

Lynn Somerton had hip surgery at Scarborough General, everything went well and she is now home doing her therapy. Looking forward to seeing her back at the Branch. I dropped into Sunnybrook to say hello to our members earlier this month. I will be going back to visit all our shut-ins the first week of December and bring them a card of good cheer.

Thank you to Charlie and Joe for fixing my door, also a big thank you to Jean, Elsie and Anne for the greeting cards, Phillis for the flowers (we will use them at the LA) and to Gwen for the stamps. Greatly appreciated.

I wish to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and everything that is good in the New Year.

Yours in comradeship

Joyce Haden

Sick Chair

Clubroom Entertainment



Saturday night in the clubroom is ho-hum. Sometimes we have a good crowd and sometimes a poor crowd.

We have great entertainment every Saturday night with great music, but, where are our members?? 20% of the Saturday nighters are from other Branches.

I am working on the entertainment list for 2015 and the month of January will not be ready for this newsletter.

New Year's Eve in the clubroom entertainment is Bill Dunn. Members come out and support your Branch.

Tom Bragan

Clubroom Chair

Over 60 Club



Our Christmas luncheon is Tuesday December 16th. Cost of the dinner is \$10.00 which will be returned to you on that day. If you pay for your dinner and fail to attend you lose the money.

Time of dinner is 12:00 noon. After the dinner we will commence our games and euchre at 1:15.

We are looking for donations of liquor, wine, beer and gift cards required for the baskets of cheer.

Please leave your donation at the bar. The draw will be held on December 24th at 4:00.

Tom Bragan

Over 60 Club Chair

Sports



Hello,

Today Nov. 16 we had our playoffs of doubles and singles for the Nov. 22nd and 29th tournaments. There will be 5 teams, 6 doubles and 6 singles going on Nov. 22 at Branch 1/42 at 11:00.

Teams mixed darts (doubles teams) got in woot woot and is being held at Branch 11 on Nov. 29th.

Regular darts (singles, doubles, & teams) got in woot woot. It is being held at Branch 1/42 Nov. 22nd.

District cribbage teams:

Team 1, Harold, Jim, Cindy & Nancy.

Team 2, Lori, Lynn, Jason P. & Eunice

Paul Stone

Sports Chair

Legion Week

Please make a note in your calendars Legion Week is September 19th through to and including September 26th

(note that takes in the set up & take down days). We need all the help we can get for fundraisers to continue to improve our displays and presenters so we are the best little Legion Branch ever to wow the students, teachers and general public. ``Uncle Branch 11 is pointing its finger at you – join now!`` Contact me, June Smith, Elsie Higgins through the Branch 416-699-1353.

*Cheers,
Helen D. Pearce*

Saturday Afternoon Meat Spins

Come on down and join in the fun for a couple of hours of spinning the wheel and win some meat. If you would like to help out that would be wonderful as well. Contact Eunice Francis or Helen Pearce through the Branch 416-699-1353.

Ladies Auxiliary



Hello Ladies,

I can't believe we are in December already. I would like to thank everyone who came out and helped stuff the poppies for the schools, they were: Shirley Caster, Cindy LeRoy, Helen Small, Vi Kelly, Cathy Cole, Eunice Francis, Joyce Haden, Betty Groome, Jim LeRoy and of course Bill Topham who looked after us with refreshments.

We had a very busy November with Remembrance parades and preparing food for taggers and our annual bazaar.

I would like to thank the ladies who came out and marched in our parade from Shopper's World and the East York Remembrance Day Parade and also all of those who worked behind the scenes, without all of this support we would not be able to accomplish what we do.

I would like to thank all the ladies that came out to help with the bazaar from setting up on Friday to manning the tables on Saturday, we could not have done it without you. I extend a special thank you to Laura Groome who manned the white elephant table which enabled me to do many other things that needed doing. We did not have a lot of people come which may be due to the rain and all the construction on the Danforth but we did well for the few that did come. A big thanks to the crew that put the tables back for us afterwards.

The winner of the `Guess the Jellybeans`` contest was our very own Robyn Keeble, (I wonder if she is sharing

them?`` The draw was held and the winners are; Silver coffee server-Doreen Cameron, \$100.00 LCBO card-Sharon Buchana, Food hydrater-Peter Sutton, George Forman grill-Patti Lackie, Gift Baskets (in numerical order) Linda Bowser, Rick Sherwood, Joan Gray, Rick Sherwood, Linda Bowser, Betty Borch, Sandra Sutton, Bernie Haden, Rick Sherwood, Doreen Cameron. Box of Joy-Ron Sherwood, Steak knife set-Blaise White, B&D steamer & rice cooker-Joan Gray, Blue Jays clock-Scott Fallis, Crystal wine glasses-Dermont Whelan, Weekend tote-Molly Suttan, Maple Leaf clock-Jean Jackson, Porcelain dolls-Raymond Monckton, Mix of Three-Dermont Whelan and the Avon Tureen-Jerry Murrey.

Congratulations to all the winners and thank you for your support.

Our Christmas Social at Sunnybrook is Saturday, December 13th. Please let me know if anyone would like to come and help out, we would leave the Branch around 12:30-1:00 pm.

Our secretary Cindy LeRoy has asked me to remind all those ladies who have not paid their dues yet to please do so before December 31st to be an early bird. The ladies dues are \$15.00 for members under 70 and \$10.00 for members over 70 and have been a member for 2 years.

On behalf of myself and the Executive members we would like to wish all of you a safe and a very Merry Christmas and a Happy new Year.

Yours in Comradeship.

*Nancy McKnight
LA President*

A Joke

A retired gentleman goes to the Government Pension office to apply for his much needed pension money. After waiting in line for a long time, he final reached the counter. The woman behind the counter asks for his driver's license to verify his age. The man reaches into his pocket and realizes he left his wallet at home.

He tells the woman that he is very sorry, but he seems to have left his wallet at home. "Will I have to go home and come back now?" he asks. The woman says, "Unbutton your shirt."

He opens his shirt revealing a lot of silver curly hair. She says, "The silver hair on your chest is proof enough for me," and she processes his application.

When he gets home, the man tells his wife about his experience at the Government of Canada office.

"You should have dropped your pants," she replies, "and you might have qualified for disability too."

=====

December 2014

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1 Euchre, Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	2	3 General meeting 8:00	4 Darts 8:00	5 Blind draw darts 7:30	6 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Lindsay Thomas Morgan
7	8 Euchre, Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	9	10	11 Darts 8:00	12 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open Mike Jam- mers 8:00	13 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Gary Peters
14	15 Euchre, Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	16	17 Executive meet- ing 7:70	18 Darts 8:00	19 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open Mike Jam- mers 8:00	20 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Bill Dunn
21	22 Euchre, Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	23	24 Christmas Eve President's Levee 12:00-5:00	25 Christmas Day 	26 Boxing Day Blind draw darts 7:30 Open Mike Jam- mers 8:00	27 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 Allen James
28	29 Euchre, Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	30	31 New Years Eve Main floor & clubroom. New Years celebrations.			

January 2015

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1	2 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open Mike Jam- mers 8:00	3 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 T.B.A.
4	5 Euchre, Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	6	7 General meeting 8:00	8 Darts 8:00	9 Blind draw darts 7:30	10 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 T.B.A.
11	12 Euchre, Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	13	14 LA General meet- ing 8:00	15 Darts 8:00	16 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open Mike Jam- mers 8:00	17 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 T.B.A.
18	19 Euchre, Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	20	21 Executive meeting 7:30	22 Darts 8:00	23 Blind draw darts 7:30	24 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 T.B.A.
25 Sunday funday 2:00	26 Euchre, Main floor 7:30 Men's darts 8:00	27	28	29 Darts 8:00	30 Blind draw darts 7:30 Open Mike Jam- mers 8:00	31 Clubroom enter- tainment 8:00 T.B.A.